

Evening Telegraph

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1866.

The President on the Constitution.

It is a common proverb that it is easier to pull down than to build up, and this is especially true with respect to a political system like that of the United States. The process of forming the Constitution of our Federal Government was an arduous and protracted one, in which the best and purest minds of that period took part. With all the light reflected upon their labors by the experience of preceding ages, there was great difficulty in adjusting the various opinions and conflicting interests that impeded the task; and it was exceedingly doubtful, even up to the closing sessions of the Convention, whether the plan finally proposed could or would receive the necessary vote in its favor. And when, afterwards, the Constitution agreed upon in convention in this city was submitted for ratification to the people of the several States, there was much apprehension felt that the instrument might not receive the required assent of nine out of the thirteen States of the old federation, and therefore fail of adoption altogether.

The felicity of its operation during eighty odd years of trial, with but few material amendments in all that long interval of time, forcibly attests the almost perfect fitness of the organic law of the National Government to the purposes and ends it was designed to meet, as well as the rare wisdom and foresight of those enlightened statesmen who were its authors.

These facts in the constitutional history of the Republic should strongly engage popular reverence for a framework of government which cost so much to secure it in the beginning, and which no ordinary man could have devised. But as innovations on any system of civil order, once begun, are apt to breed a passion for change rather for its own sake than for any substantial improvement, either urgently needed or clearly perceived, they are to be ardently discouraged, as adapted to lead to some undefined extent, and to the most disastrous consequences.

This spirit is exhibited just now in a remarkable manner, and to an unprecedented degree, by certain members of the present Congress; and it is not at all surprising that the President regards the matter with decided disfavor. In a recent conversation of his with a distinguished Senator, Mr. JOHNSON is reported to have said:—

"Propositions to amend the Constitution are becoming as numerous as preambles and resolutions at town meetings, called to consider the most ordinary questions connected with the administration of local affairs. All this, in my opinion, has a tendency to diminish the dignity and prestige attached to the Constitution of the country, and to lessen the respect and confidence of the people in their great charter of rights."

This is strong language, but not a whit too strong for the occasion. It justly rebukes that silly propensity of a certain class of politicians to be perpetually tinkering at the most sacred forms and established provisions of government in our land; just as if they were wiser than our fathers, and could improve, by almost any ill-considered and immature alterations, the fabrics of social organization and civil administration which those seemingly inspired sages constructed and bequeathed to us. Indeed, as the President more than intimates, there is a levity of temper and an itching meddlesomeness of disposition displayed with respect to amending the Constitution of the United States, which find their reflection in the volubility of stump orators and the miserable platitudes of those who scribble the "preambles and resolutions of town meetings." And we entirely agree with him in thinking that all such trifling with so grave a matter as the Federal Constitution is fitted to sink that deservedly venerable instrument in popular respect, and to divert it of very much of that august sanctity which should be constantly preserved as one of the most efficacious monuments of its integrity and safety.

Nor is the President without high authority for the profound severity and wholesome conservatism of the views he has so lately expressed in reference to this subject. WASHINGTON, in his "Farewell Address" to the people of the United States, uttered like sentiments in the following impressive admonition:—"Towards the preservation of your Government, and the permanency of your present happy state, it is requisite not only that you steadily discountenance irregular oppositions to its acknowledged authority, but also that you resist, with care, the spirit of innovation upon its principles, however specious the pretext. One method of assault may be to effect, in the forms of the Constitution, alterations which will impair the energy of the system, and thus to undermine what cannot be directly overthrown. In all the changes to which you may be invited, remember that time and habit are at least as necessary to fix the true character of governments as of other human institutions; that experience is the surest standard by which to test the real tendency of the existing Constitution of a country; and that facility in changes, upon the credit of mere hypothesis and opinion, exposes to perpetual damage, from the endless variety of hypothesis and opinion."

But it would seem that a number—we hope a small minority—of the members of the present Congress have no very great regard

for the views of either President WASHINGTON or President JOHNSON touching the imprudence of making too many and too frequent alterations of the fundamental and supreme law of the National Government. They have, apparently, got into their heads the conceit that they were not sent to Washington to legislate for the ordinary and current affairs of the country, or, as President JOHNSON expresses it, "those more important and urgent matters, legislation upon which is essential for the restoration of the Union, the peace of the country, and the prosperity of the people," but that their real and only mission is, to totally abolish the Constitution of 1787, and make an entirely new one for the nation. The people's representatives are, in that respect, entirely in error. If the Constitution really requires any further amendments than have already been accomplished, there will be time enough to propose them when the Union is completely restored, and the people of all the States are in a situation to consider and decide upon them. In the meanwhile, there are pressing questions of taxation, finance, commerce, internal improvements, the tariff, and the like, demanding action at the hands of Congress; and the people everywhere, no doubt, will be greatly more pleased to have these matters attended to with due promptness and deliberation, than to have their minds agitated and the final restoration of the peace and unity of the country postponed by propositions to amend the Constitution, which are either not needed at all, or are of doubtful expediency.

South Carolina Redivivus.

MAJOR-GENERAL DANIEL E. SICKLES, now in command of the Department of South Carolina, has recently issued an order which will create a sensation among the haughty aristocrats of that pestilent State. In a calm and demonstrative way he disposes of the question so long discussed and so little understood—the equality of the white and black races in the eyes of the law. The first statement he makes is terse and concise, but every word is full of meaning:—"All laws shall be applicable alike to all inhabitants. No person shall be held incompetent to sue, make complaints, or to testify, because of color or caste." This sounds like democracy of the broadest character. It would seem to mean that the colored man was to be elevated, and the poor man entitled to all his franchises. In furtherance of his plan, he urges all persons living within the limits of the State to apply themselves assiduously to the development of the agricultural resources of the department, promising every protection which the military arm of the Government can supply. This is admirably adapted to produce a feeling of security upon the part of those who are really anxious to reconstruct the South, and bring about the prosperity that prevailed before bad men urged the two sections into a bloody and ruinous conflict. On the other hand he clearly intimates that persons not disposed to labor for their own support, whether they be white or black, will be dealt with as their contumacy may seem to deserve. It is his intention to see that the system of serfdom shall not be exchanged for that of pauperism. Every able-bodied man will be required to do his portion in regaining the position lost by rebellion and crime. This is a common sense view of the delicate question. Every one will be compelled to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow. The masters, who lorded it so proudly, must gain their livelihood by some honest means, while the recently unshackled slaves, born to a new and nobler life, will be required to prove their capability to enjoy the freedom which has been bought at such fearful expenditure of blood and treasure. General SICKLES' order abolishes all inequalities of punishment, and makes corporal punishment, unless in specially provided cases, a criminal offense.

The order will change the aspect of affairs in South Carolina, where the task-masters' whip and the thong of the brutal overseer have so long held sway. But the chivalry must acknowledge that the world moves, and that barbarities and brutalities must give way before the march of an advancing civilization. Hoary-headed outrages are not to be tolerated in a civilized age and among Christian people. General SICKLES is the very man to grapple with the hydra-headed monster of slavery, for he has the ability to understand its venom, and the nerve to boldly attack it in its den. The paper will repay a careful perusal, and if its suggestions are properly carried out, there is no doubt of the success of General SICKLES' mission.

Our New Judges.

The selection of Hon. JOSEPH ALLISON to occupy the position of President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, in the room of Hon. OSWALD THOMPSON, recently deceased, strikes us as a particularly happy one. Judge ALLISON's long connection with the Common Pleas renders him entirely familiar with the important business of that Court. He brings to the discharge of his official duties great intelligence, indefatigable industry, unquestionable integrity, and legal erudition of more than usual brilliancy. He is a fit man to assume the ermine that falls unsputtered from the shoulders of Judge THOMPSON.

The vacancy created by the promotion of Judge ALLISON has been filled by the appointment of WILLIAM S. PIENCE, Esq., a well-known and greatly respected member of the Philadelphia Bar. Mr. PIENCE has spent his life in professional service, and is very familiar with civil practice. We imagine that he has peculiar talents for administering justice. He is cool, collected, and scarcely ever thrown off his guard by any sudden development. We are deeply read in the law, especially that of Pennsylvania, and we think will make a most admirable Judge. We are gratified to know that the great loss we sustained in the death of Judge THOMPSON was so promptly and so creditably filled.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE

OFFICE OF THE EVENING TELEGRAPH, Wednesday, January 31, 1866.

There was a firmer feeling in the Stock Market this morning, and prices have an upward tendency. Catawissa Railroad, as we have noticed for several days past, continues the most active on the list; about 5000 shares sold at 33 1/2 @ 34 for preferred, an advance of 1/4, and common do. at 23 1/2 @ 24, an advance of 1/4; Reading sold at 49 1/2 @ 50, an advance of 1/4; Camden and Amboy at 11 1/2 @ 11 3/4, an advance of 1/4; Pennsylvania Railroad at 54, no change; North Pennsylvania at 37, an advance of 1/4; Philadelphia and Erie at 29 1/2 @ 29 3/4, no change; 31 was bid for Little Schuylkill; 54 for Mtnhill; 61 for Lehigh Valley; and 44 for Northern Central.

In City Passenger Railroad shares there is rather more doing. Tenth and Eleventh sold at 52 1/2; Thirteenth and Fifteenth at 32; Spruce and Pine at 26; and Hostonville at 34. 71 was bid for Second and Third; 34 for Green and Coates; and 25 for Girard College.

Government bonds are in better demand. 5-20s sold at 102; 6s of 1881 at 103; and 7-30s at 98 1/2. 92 was bid for 10-40s. State and City loans are in fair demand, with sales of Pennsylvania 5s at 89, and new City 6s at 91.

Bank shares are firmly held at full prices: 206 was bid for North America; 140 for Philadelphia; 50 for Commercial; 92 for Northern Liberties; 28 for Mechanics; 191 for South work; 96 for Kensington; 51 for Penn Township; and 52 for Girard.

In Canal shares there is very little movement. Morris Canal preferred sold at 114 1/2; 21 was bid for Schuylkill Navigation common; 25 for preferred do.; 21 for Lehigh Navigation; 9 for Susquehanna Canal; 31 for Delaware Division; and 57 for Wyoming Valley Canal.

Oil shares are without change. McElrath was in good demand, with sales at 21, and McClintock at 14.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK EXCHANGE SALES TO-DAY

Reported by De Haven & Co., No. 43 S. Third street.

Table with columns for stock names and prices. Includes items like 100 U S 5-20s @ 102, 100 U S 6s @ 98 1/2, etc.

SALES AT PUBLIC STOCK BOARD TO-DAY

Reported by F. T. Watson, No. 293 S. Fourth street.

Table with columns for stock names and prices. Includes items like 100 U S 5-20s @ 102, 100 U S 6s @ 98 1/2, etc.

PHILADELPHIA GOLD EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS.

Table with columns for gold exchange rates. Includes items like 10 A. M. @ 140 1/2, 11 A. M. @ 140 1/2, etc.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

New York, January 31.—Cotton is quiet at 49 1/2. The market is dull, but unchanged. Flour is quiet, but unchanged. Wheat is quiet, but unchanged. Corn is firm, but quiet. Beef quiet. Pork heavy at 22 1/2 @ 23 for near Lard heavy, but unchanged. Whisky dull and nominal.

The "Sultana" Disaster.

The trial of Captain Frederic Speed, of Maine, A. G. of Volunteers, for improperly placing on board of the steamer Sultana, on the 27th of April, at Vicksburg, where he was Acting Adjutant-General, 1866 paroled prisoners, of whom 1109 perished by the explosion of the boat near Memphis, commenced before a court-martial at Vicksburg, on the 11th instant. The carrying capacity of the boat was 770, and other and better boats were offered to carry a portion of the prisoners. The examination of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel George A. Williams consumed two days and a part of the third, his evidence being mainly in regard to bringing the paroled prisoners in from Four-Mile Bridge, near Vicksburg, and placing them on the Sultana, en route for St. Louis, Mo., and Columbus, O., and on whom the responsibility rests for placing these men on the boat. Captain Williams is a member of the State Convention of 1850, and twice represented his district in the United States House of Representatives. Mr. Ricard was a man of talents, of generous impulses, and strict integrity. — Baltimore Sun.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

CORN EXCHANGE ASSOCIATION.

At the Annual Meeting of the members of the Corn Exchange Association, held on TUESDAY EVENING, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:— PRESIDENT, CHARLES H. CUMMINGS. VICE-PRESIDENT, NATHAN HAYDOCK. SECRETARY, JOSEPH B. FEROT. TREASURER, JOSEPH S. EVANS. MANAGERS, Edward Lukens, George L. Barby, Henry L. Barby, George L. Barby, John H. Michener, J. W. Hunsicker.

TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS,

obtain BELFLETTEN'S PATENT EXCLUSIVE PRINTING ROOM, No. 49 CHESTNUT STREET.

were made under the circumstances heretofore referred to; and a full account is just and accurate, and contains a correct statement as well of the sums furnished by the defendant to their plaintiffs, and for margins as of the respective orders when the same were so furnished.

First. That at the time of the transactions heretofore referred to, the plaintiffs were copartners in the business of stock brokers in the city of New York, under the firm name of Ogilvy & Son, and were members of the regular board of stock brokers in said city.

Second. That shortly prior to the 19th day of March, 1864, the defendant employed said plaintiffs as his stock brokers, to buy and sell for him and on his account, under the name of Ogilvy & Son, the shares of stock of the several corporations and companies mentioned in the bill, and to purchase and sell for him and on his account, under the name of Ogilvy & Son, the shares of stock of the several corporations and companies mentioned in the bill, and to purchase and sell for him and on his account, under the name of Ogilvy & Son, the shares of stock of the several corporations and companies mentioned in the bill.

Third. That at the time of the transactions heretofore referred to, the defendant was a resident of Newburgh, Orange County, in this State, and had his office there for the transaction of business, but he was during the transactions referred to, and hereinafter specified frequently absent from Newburgh on business.

Fourth. That pursuant to the employment agreement and understanding referred to in the "second" finding, the defendant furnished said plaintiffs from time to time with sums of money, and for such sums the defendant received from the plaintiffs, and for such sums the defendant received from the plaintiffs, and for such sums the defendant received from the plaintiffs, and for such sums the defendant received from the plaintiffs.

Fifth. That the defendant, by his agents and brokers, and by means of the proceeds of said sales, the said loans should be repaid, and the said shares should be delivered to the purchasers of such sale, and the said proceeds should be used to pay the said loans, and the said proceeds should be used to pay the said loans, and the said proceeds should be used to pay the said loans.

Sixth. That all of the sales so made without special instructions from the defendant were made by said plaintiffs in good faith.

Seventh. That immediately after the sale of said shares of stock the plaintiffs notified the defendant of the amount of the proceeds which had been realized, and the defendant acquiesced in the same.

Eighth. That the defendant, by his agents and brokers, and by means of the proceeds of said sales, the said loans should be repaid, and the said shares should be delivered to the purchasers of such sale, and the said proceeds should be used to pay the said loans, and the said proceeds should be used to pay the said loans.

Ninth. That the defendant, by his agents and brokers, and by means of the proceeds of said sales, the said loans should be repaid, and the said shares should be delivered to the purchasers of such sale, and the said proceeds should be used to pay the said loans, and the said proceeds should be used to pay the said loans.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

DEPARTMENT OF RECEIVER OF TAXES.

PHILADELPHIA, January 29, 1866. STATE TAXES ON REAL ESTATE WILL NOT BE RECEIVED AT THIS OFFICE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. (Signed) CHARLES O'NEILL, RECEIVER OF TAXES.

UNITED STATES TREASURY

PHILADELPHIA, January 30, 1866. On and after the 1st day of February next, this office will be open for business from 10 o'clock A. M. to 3 o'clock P. M. Assistant Treasurer U. S.

OFFICE OF THE UPPER ISLAND OIL COMPANY.

PHILADELPHIA, January 29, 1866. A Special Meeting of the Stockholders of the Upper Island Oil Company will be held at the Office of the Company, No. 45 CHESTNUT STREET, Philadelphia, Pa., on TUESDAY, the 30th day of February next, 1866, at 12 o'clock noon, to act upon a proposition to reduce the capital stock of the Company to Fifty Thousand Dollars.

OFFICE OF THE WALNUT ISLAND OIL COMPANY.

PHILADELPHIA, January 29, 1866. A Special Meeting of the Stockholders of the Walnut Island Oil Company will be held at the Office of the Company, No. 45 CHESTNUT STREET, Philadelphia, Pa., on TUESDAY, the 30th day of February next, 1866, at 12 o'clock noon, to act upon a proposition to reduce the capital stock of the Company to Two Hundred Thousand Dollars.

OFFICE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY.

PHILADELPHIA, January 30, 1866. NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS. The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of this Company will be held on TUESDAY, the 29th day of February, 1866, at 10 o'clock A. M., at the SANSON STREET HALL, No. 28 S. THIRD STREET.

OFFICE OF THE VOLCANIC OIL AND COAL COMPANY.

PHILADELPHIA, January 31, 1866. The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of this Company will be held on TUESDAY, the 30th day of February, 1866, at 10 o'clock A. M., at the SANSON STREET HALL, No. 28 S. THIRD STREET.

DINING-ROOM—F. LAKEMeyer.

CARTER'S ADEY, would respectfully inform the Public generally that he has nothing intended to make his place comfortable in every respect for the accommodation of guests. He has opened a large and commodious Dining-Room in the second story, his SIDEBOARD is supplied with BEANS, WHISKY, WINE, WHISKY, ETC., ETC., OF SUPERIOR BRANDS.

E. H. THARP.

LAW AND COLLECTION OFFICE. No. 116, SIXTH STREET. Debts promptly collected in any City or Town of the United States. COMPLETE AND RELIABLE CORRESPONDENTS EVERYWHERE.

A PHYSIOLOGICAL VIEW OF MARIAGE.

Containing nearly 300 pages, and 139 fine illustrations, the most complete and accurate treatise on the subject of Marriage, ever published. It is a State of Health and Disease, with a Treatise on Early Procreation, its Deporable Consequences upon the Mind and Body, and the various other subjects connected with the subject of Marriage, which are not to be found in any other work of the kind. Sent free of postage to any address on receipt of one cent per copy, or by mail, by addressing Dr. LA GRANGE, No. 31 AIDEN LANE, ALBANY, N. Y.

THE GREAT NEW ENGLAND REMEDY.

DR. J. W. POLAND'S WHITE PINE COMPOUND. Is now offered to the afflicted throughout the country, after having been proved by the test of eleven years, in the New England States, where its merits have become as well known as the tree from which, in part, it derives its virtues.

THE WHITE PINE COMPOUND CURES

Sore Throat, Coughs, Diphtheria, Bronchitis, Spitting of Blood, and Pulmonary Affections generally. It is a Remarkable Remedy for Kidney Complaints, Diabetes, Difficulty of Voiding Urine, Bleeding from the Kidneys and Bladder, Gravel, and other complaints.

Give it a trial if you would learn the value of a good and tried medicine.

It is pleasant, safe, and sure. Sold by druggists and dealers in medicine generally. GEORGE W. SWETT, M. D., Proprietor, 122mWm BOSTON, Mass.

PERRY & CO'S

STAR CLOTHING EMPORIUM, No. 609 CHESTNUT STREET, ABOVE SIXTH. Slightly Damaged Stock Closing Out EXTREMELY LOW.

SCHOMACKER & CO'S PHILADELPHIA MANUFACTURED PIANOS

They have been awarded the highest Premiums at the principal exhibitions ever held in this country, with numerous testimonials from the first artists in America and Europe. They are now the leading Pianos, and are sold to all parts of the world, and are offered on more liberal terms than any others in the city. For the reason that the instruments can be obtained directly from us, the manufacturers. Our extensive facilities enable us to offer great inducements over our competitors.

SPRING FLANNELS.

Complete Stock from 40 cents up. Best Trunking made for best custom. 1 25 66p

STOCK AND EXCHANGE BROKERS.

No. 36 S. THIRD STREET. GOVERNMENT SECURITIES Bought and Sold. STOCKS Bought and Sold on Commission. INTEREST allowed on Deposits. 1 31 Imp

HAVANA CIGARS AND LYNCHBURG TOBACCO.

Best in the city at reduced prices, at PERRY'S, No. 609 CHESTNUT STREET, Opposite the Continental. Notice—Store closed on Sunday. Customers please purchase on Saturday. 1 31 Imp

GREAT SACRIFICE.

IMMENSE BARGAINS.

NO TIME TO BE LOST

IN SECURING A GREAT BARGAIN IN GENTLEMEN'S AND YOUTHS' CLOTHING.

RESCUED FROM THE LATE FIRE.

THE LOW PRICES OFFERED AT WILL

ASTONISH YOU.

CALL AT THE STORE OF ROCKHILL & WILSON, PROPRIETORS OF THE BROWN STONE CLOTHING HALL, Nos. 603 and 605 CHESTNUT ST., WHO ARE PREPARING THEIR SPRING STOCK.

THE CUSTOMER DEPARTMENT IS NOW UNDER WAY

ON THE SECOND FLOOR, 1 31 64p ENRANCE ON CHESSUT ST.

DRY GOODS--RETAIL.

EDWIN HALL & CO., No. 26 S. SECOND STREET, WILL OPEN THIS MORNING, DIRECT FROM DUBLIN, AN INVOICE OF PIMS BROTHERS' BLACK IRISH POPLINS, IN THE TWO BEST QUALITIES.

N. B.—The order having been given for these goods to the manufacturers nearly six months, we are enabled to sell them for a much less price than if the order had been given at a later period (1866)

COOPER & CONARD, NINTH AND MARKET.

35 cent yard wide good Bleached Muslin.

27 1/2 cent Leavy good Bleached Muslin

40 cent for best makes Bleached Muslin.

48 cents for Williams Bleached.

45 cents for heavy 5-4 Bleached Sheetings.

407 PIECES Bleached and Unbleached Muslins selling by the piece at lowest wholesale prices.

25 cents for good Gingham.

31 cents for Merino Prints.

80 for heavy Lard Blankets.

40 cents for good black fringed Towels.

41-15 for heavy power-loom Table Damask.

CLOTHS AND CASSIMERS. Winter Goods greatly reduced in price. Daily receiving Spring Stock. One case best water proof Cloakings. Heaver Cloakings and Overcoatings low. We advise buying now while they are cheap.

SPRING FLANNELS. Complete Stock from 40 cents up. Best Trunking made for best custom. 1 25 66p

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